2019-2ad40fee

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

28 FEBRUARY 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Santa Ana - Seizures of Illegal Drugs Rose in the Last Two Years

(U) Seizures by Orange County Sheriff's deputies of illicit fentanyl doubled last year in Orange County when compared to the year before, sheriff's officials said yesterday. In 2018, the Sheriff's Department seized 44 pounds of the synthetic opioid, while in 2017 it was 22 pounds – and only 0.2 pounds in 2016. Last year, sheriff's deputies, and narcotic and gang teams also seized 1,420 pounds of meth, 451 pounds of cocaine, and 72 pounds of heroin. The 44 pounds seized in 2018 could kill Orange County's population three times over, officials said.

SOURCE: 27 February 2019, OC Register

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida – 1600 Pounds of Cocaine Seized from Smugglers

(U) Jacksonville – Air and Marine Operations (AMO) aircrew members from US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) assisted the US Coast Guard in the seizure of nearly 1,600 pounds of cocaine being smuggled in small boats from Ecuador. The seizures are estimated to be valued in excess of \$20 million. Operating P-3 Orion aircraft assigned to the National Air Security Operations Center in Jacksonville, Florida, AMO aircrew members began tracking a 35-foot panga boat in the Eastern Pacific ocean. The vessel appeared to be riding low in the water despite only three people being onboard, according to information obtained from CBP officials. The aircrew notified the US Navy and Coast Guard about the suspected drug-smuggling boat.

SOURCE: 27 February 2019, Breitbart

(U) New York - MS-13 Planning Attacks Against NYPD Officers

(U) New York City – Members of the MS-13 gang looking to improve their "street credibility" are reportedly aiming to target New York police officers who live in some areas of Long Island. NYPD 105th Precinct officials issued a word of caution to officers residing in Brentwood, Central Islip and Patchogue about the "threats" as the gang members were apparently caught surveying officers' homes, the New York Post reported Tuesday, citing an internal memo.

SOURCE: 27 February 2019, Fox News

(U) Oklahoma – Traffic Stop Leads to Second Largest Fentanyl Bust in Oklahoma

(U) Oklahoma City – A traffic stop leads to one of Oklahoma City Police Department's largest drug busts when officers seized 67 pounds of fentanyl, the second largest bust of the narcotic in the state. The narcotics were discovered after a traffic stop on westbound Interstate 40 near downtown. Officers pulled over a truck driver hauling multiple cars. The truck driver cooperated with the investigation and allowed police to search a 2014 Nissan Altima. The truck driver was interviewed and released, as the man did not know the drugs were inside the car, according to police.

SOURCE: 27 February 2019, News 9

Form # 1168-442e-b407-de1a8c242c14

2019-2ad40fee

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

(U) Puerto Rico – 75 Face Federal Drug Trafficking Charges

(U) San Juan – A federal grand jury in Puerto Rico has indicted 75 people accused of running a multimillion-dollar drug trafficking ring, and enforcing the enterprise with killing and throwing bodies of victims to caimans. US Attorney Rosa Emilia Rodriguez said yesterday that the group had operated since 2006 and sold drugs including crack, cocaine, heroin and Xanax in public housing complexes in the capital of San Juan, as well as shipping cocaine to the US mainland. Prosecutor Alberto Lopez said the group is linked to more than a dozen killings, although he didn't say how many people were allegedly fed to caimans, citing confidential evidence.

SOURCE: 27 February 2019, Associated Press

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Democratic Republic of Congo – Attack Targets Second Ebola Treatment Center

(U) Butembo – On 27 February, armed assailants set fire to an Ebola treatment center in the city of Butembo, located in the Democratic Republic of Congo's North Kivu province. The mayor of Butembo stated that the assailants destroyed the center's tents and equipment. There were no reports of injuries. The attack comes after assailants targeted a treatment center in nearby Katwa on 24-25 February, forcing doctors at that facility to suspend services. Several attacks have targeted Ebola treatment centers and teams in recent months due to community distrust of Ebola treatment teams. SOURCE: 27 February 2019, VOA News

(U) Netherlands – Dutch Police Arrest Terror Suspect

(U) Groningen – Dutch prosecutors say they have arrested a 48-year man on suspicion of preparing a terror attack, locating weapons and ammunition that were found at his home in the northern city of Groningen. In a statement prosecutors said the man, whose identity has not been released, was arrested after a Dutch intelligence agency alerted authorities that he was a supporter of ISIS and that he owned a weapon. The Dutch counterterror coordinator maintained the country's alert level at four on a scale of one to five.

SOURCE: 27 February 2019, Associated Press

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.

Warning: This document is the exclusive property of the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code Sec. 6250-6270). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with STAC policy relating to U//FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized STAC official. No portion of this report should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form.

This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.